

REMARKS

By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claim 1-4 and added claims 14 and 15. Accordingly, claims 1-4, 14 and 15 are pending.

DRAWING OBJECTIONS

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5). To overcome the drawing rejection, Applicants are concurrently filing a Request for Approval of Drawing Corrections whereby Applicants amend Figures 1 and 3B to more clearly indicate the motor base 3101. No new matter is added by the drawing corrections.

Applicants note that the Office Action at page 2 states that the drawings “do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: the reference numerals in page 6 do not match with those in Figure 1.” Applicants respectfully submit that the reference numerals in page 6 do in fact match with Figure 1, and that Applicants changes to the drawings simply make more clear the motor base 3101. Applicants request that the drawing objection be withdrawn.

OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION

The Abstract is objected to because of the use of the word “comprises” in line 1. Applicants have amended the Abstract to overcome the basis for the objection to the Abstract, and have also amended the Abstract to more clearly define the subject matter of Applicants invention. No new matter is added by Applicants changes to the Abstract.

CLAIM REJECTION UNDER SECTION 102

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Satoh. Applicants respectfully traverse this Section 102(e) rejection.

Attached to this Amendment is a certified English translation of the priority document of the subject application. Applicants note that the Satoh Patent issued on August 14, 2001 and has a filing date of December 27, 1999. However, the subject application has a priority date based on Japanese Application 11-351296 of December 10, 1999. Thus the priority date of the subject application is before the filing date of December 27, 1999 of the Satoh Patent. With the filing of the certified English translation of the priority document, the Satoh Patent is not prior art as to the subject application. Thus, Applicants request that the Section 102(e) rejection be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER SECTION 103

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Makoto in view of Yasuhiro; and claims 2-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Makoto in view of Yasuhiro and further in view of Hiroyasu. Applicants respectfully traverse these Section 103(a) rejections.

Claim 1 is an independent claim directed to a surface mountable motor base and includes the following elements:

- a base,
- a bearing support extending from the base for supporting a bearing,
- a stator supporter concentric with the bearing supporter for supporting a stator, and

- **a terminal for connection to a winding of the stator, the terminal exposed on a bottom of the motor base and extending substantially parallel to the base.**

Applicants respectfully submit that the surface mountable motor base of claim 1 is patentably distinguished from the Makoto and Yasuhiro references at least based on the feature of the terminal which connects to a winding of the stator and which is on the bottom of the motor base and extends substantially parallel to the base (hereinafter generally referred to as the "Terminal Feature" of Applicants claimed invention). It is Applicants contention that none of the references of record either teach or suggest the Terminal Feature.

The Makoto Patent concerns a brushless motor and shows in Figures 1A, 1B and 1C a stator substrate 2 of a brushless motor 1 as a single body molded between an iron plate 70 and a resin 80. A wide circular part 79 of a wiring pattern 78 is at one-side region of a rotary shaft 60 of a rotor 6. But no where in the brushless motor of the Makoto Reference is there any teaching or suggestion of a terminal connected to a winding of the stator wherein the terminal is exposed on the bottom of the motor base and extends substantially parallel to the base. In other words, the Makoto Reference lacks any teaching or suggestion of the Terminal Feature of Applicants claimed invention.

The Yasuhiro Reference relates to a direct current brushless motor where an insulating layer is formed on the surface of a metal base and a cooper foil conductor is patterned thereon. A conductor pattern for grounding is formed on an inside circumference of the motor and connected to a grounding terminal. A lower bearing 12 comes in contact with the conductor pattern and the metal base for grounding. But no where in the Yasuhiro Reference is there any teaching or suggestion of a terminal for connection to a winding of a stator where the terminal is exposed on a bottom of the motor base and extends substantially parallel to the base as stated in Applicants claim 1.

Thus neither the Makoto Reference nor the Yasuhiro Reference teach or suggest the Terminal Feature of Applicants claimed invention. Applicants therefore request that the Section 103(a) rejection of claim 1 based on these References be withdrawn.

Claims 2-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Makoto in view of Yasuhiro and further in view of Hiroyasu. Applicants respectfully traverse this Section 103(a) rejection.

Claims 2, 3 and 4 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore include the Terminal Feature. As noted above, the Terminal Feature is neither taught nor suggested in the Makoto and Yasuhiro References. Applicant respectfully submits that the Hiroyasu Reference does not rectify the deficiencies heretofore discussed with respect to the Makoto and Yasuhiro References.

The Hiroyasu Reference relates to a brushless motor having a stator core 1 (see Figure 1) which is integrally molded. The Hiroyasu brushless motor also includes a terminal block 2 made of a metallic sheet with an insulating resin 3. The terminal block 2 is placed on a lower section of a salient pole of the stator core 1. According to the English abstract of the Hiroyasu Reference, a small-size core 1 and a small-size motor result "because it becomes a necessary to provide a space for fitting terminal pins in the inner peripheral section of the core 1". But no where in the Hiroyasu Reference is there any teaching or suggestion of a service mountable motor base as defined in Applicants claim 1 where a terminal is provided for connection to the winding of a stator and wherein the terminal is exposed on a bottom of the motor base and extends substantially parallel to the base. In other words, the Hiroyasu Reference does not teach or suggest the Terminal Feature. Accordingly, it is Applicants contention that the combination of the Makoto, Yasuhiro, and Hiroyasu References do not teach or suggest the surface mountable motor base defined by claim 1, as well as that defined in Applicants dependent claims 2-4. Applicants therefore request that the section 103(a) rejection directed to claims 2-4 be withdrawn.

NEWLY ADDED CLAIMS

By this Amendment, Applicants have added new claims 14- and 15 which are dependent on claim 1. Applicants submit that new claims 14 and 15 are not the addition of new mater and are patentably distinguished from the references of record at least based on their dependency to claim 1.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-4, 14 and 15 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel N. Calder

Daniel N. Calder, Reg. No. 27,424
Attorney for Applicants

DNC/dlm

Enclosures:

Check for \$

Amended Abstract

Version with markings to show changes made

Figures 1 and 3B marked with red corrections

Dated: July 17, 2002

P.O. Box 980

Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980

(610) 407-0700

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Daniel N. Calder